Regulation (39-) 26-102.20.

The sale of tangible personal property to a person engaged in the manufacture or compounding of a product or service, where such tangible personal property becomes a physical part of such product or service, is a wholesale sale and exempt from sales tax. Any container, label or shipping case used to encase or enclose such product may be purchased tax free by the manufacturer or compounder.

Tax applies to the sale of tangible personal property to the manufacturer or compounder that purchases it for use as an aid in manufacturing, producing or processing tangible personal property and not for the purpose of physically incorporating it into the manufactured article to be sold. Examples of such property are machinery, tools, furniture, office equipment, and chemicals used as catalysts or otherwise to produce a chemical or physical reaction such as the production of heat or the removal of impurities.

"For all the reasons we have heretofore mentioned we must conclude that to be exempt from the operation of the acts, tangible personal property purchased by a manufacturer and which enters into the processing of the manufactured product, must be a constituent part thereof, wholly or partially, by either chemical or mechanical means......"

"Applying these definitions to the words under consideration, it would seem certain they mean that to enter into the processing of an article, substance or commodity, tangible personal property must of necessity become a constituent part of such final product in the series of continuous operations and treatment lending to this result." <u>Bedford v. C.F. and I.</u>, 102 Colo 538, 81 P.2d 752 (1938); position reaffirmed in <u>Western Electric v. Weed</u>, Jr., 185 Colo. 340, 524 P.2d 1369 (1974).

Examples of manufacturing aids include but are not limited to the following:

(1) Sales of CO₂ gas for use in the sale of draft beer are taxable to the vendor of the beer, since the vendor buys the gas for use in forcing the draft beer through the pipes rather than for the purpose of reselling the gas.

If the gas is purchased for the sole purpose of incorporating it into a product to be sold and is so incorporated into a product to be sold as in soda water or other beverages, the sale of the gas is exempt as a sale for resale.

- (2) Phosphoric and sulfuric acid used in a process known as anodizing aluminum are primarily used as electrolytes, acting as a catalyst, and do not become a component part of the aluminum objects that are processed. The processor is accordingly the consumer of such acids and is taxable at the time of purchase of such items.
- (3) Flux if used as a cleaning agent or as a means of reducing oxidation, is taxable to the manufacturer at the time of purchase. It may also be used for transmitting desirable alloys to the deposited metal. To the extent it is used for the latter purpose, it is not subject to sales tax to the manufacturer at the time of purchase. Since the different functions are not mutually exclusive, exempt and nonexempt purposes may be served

simultaneously and in such cases the tax will have to be apportioned between the various uses.

- (4) Sulphur used in drying and curing fruit is regarded as used by the manufacturer, not as incorporated and resold and the tax is to be paid by the manufacturer when he purchases the sulphur.
- (5) Forged steel balls are used in a ball mill to grind silica sand to a desired fineness. In the course of the grinding, the balls wear out, and they become incorporated into the finished product which is sold. The steel balls are purchased for the purpose of using them in the manufacturing processes and not primarily for the purpose of incorporating steel into a finished product. Accordingly, the manufacturer must pay sales tax on the steel balls at the time of purchase.
- (6) If ice is in fact used for the sole purpose of becoming an ingredient of the finished product, as where it is used solely to supply all or a part of the water content of the sausage and luncheon meats, the sale of the ice may be regarded as a sale for resale and the processor is not required to pay tax at the time of purchase of the ice.

If the ice or dry ice is used for any purpose other than to become an ingredient or component part of the finished product, it is purchased for a purpose other than for resale and is subject to tax to be paid at the time of purchase by the processor.

- (7) A rubber chemical used as a lubricant to facilitate mold release of rubber products, such as tires, and which may remain as a film on the finished rubber product is a manufacturing aid used as a lubricant by the manufacturer who is required to pay the sales tax at the time of purchase.
- (8) Cleaners purchased for use in preparing metal part surfaces prior to rust proofing do not become incorporated in the product and therefore the manufacturer is the user and must pay sales tax at the time of purchase.
- (9) When paint thinner, abrasives, cleaning compounds, masking tape and similar items are used by a person in painting tangible personal property, that person is the user of such items and must pay sales tax at the time of purchase.
- (10) Talc used as an anti-adhesive or lubricant in the manufacture of rubber products is a manufacturing aid and a sales tax is imposed on the manufacturer at the time of purchase.